

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 038047

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PARM, VS, VN, PFOR, PDIP, UN

SUBJECT: "PRG" LIAISON OFFICE IN GENEVA: NON-HUMANITARIAN

-- ACTIVITIES

REF: A. GENEVA 1115

-- B. GENEVA 1002

-- C. STATE 33658

-- D. BERN 679

-- E. SAIGON 1748

1. FOLLOWING COORDINATION WITH RESPECTIVE GVN MISSIONS,
ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE DEMARCHES ON
"PRG" PRESS CONFERENCE HELD IN GENEVA FEBRUARY 7. DEMARCHES
SHOULD BE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES.

2. FOR USMISSION GENEVA: YOU SHOULD SEEK EARLY APPOINT-
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MENT TO TELL WINSPEARE THAT, WHILE LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE

NOT RPT NOT UN CONFERENCE, PHAM VAN BA USED PREMISES OF "PRG" LIAISON OFFICE TO DELIVER CONTENTIOUS AND POLITICAL REMARKS UNRELATED TO UN HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES. THIS CLEARLY EXCEEDED HIS PROPER FUNCTIONS SINCE, AS REPORTED REF E, HE WAS SPEAKING IN HIS CAPACITY AS HEAD OF LIAISON OFFICE TO UN GENEVA. USG HOPES STRONGLY THAT THE UN WILL TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF THIS GROSS DEVIATION FROM THE "PRG" LIAISON OFFICE'S PROPER ACTIVITIES.

3. FOR USUN NEW YORK: YOU SHOULD MAKE SAME POINTS TO UNSYG WALDHEIM OR, IN HIS ABSENCE, TO UNDER SECRETARY GUYER. YOUR APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE AT ABOUT SAME TIME AS ANY GVN DEMARCHE IN NEW YORK.

4. FOR BERN: YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT LOW NOT RPT NOT UN CONFERENCE AND IS BEING HELD AT NON-UN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER. GIVEN ABOVE AND FACT THAT "PRG" LIAISON OFFICE IS LIMITED TO UN-RELATED HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES, USG INQUIRES WHETHER PHAM VAN BA'S PRESS CONFERENCE WAS NOT A VIOLATION OF HIS STATUS IN SWITZERLAND SINCE HIS COMMENTS WERE POLITICAL IN NATURE AND UNRELATED TO UN MATTERS. MOREOVER, SINCE PRESS CONFERENCE WAS HELD ON "PRG" LIAISON OFFICE PREMISES, WE CONSIDER PHAM'S COMMENTS A VIOLATION OF THE LIAISON OFFICE'S PROPER FUNCTIONS (AGAIN, SINCE THEY WERE POLITICAL AND CONTENTIOUS IN TONE, AND WERE NOT RPT NOT RELATED TO UN HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES). USG HOPES STRONGLY THAT GOS WILL TAKE STEPS TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF SUCH "PRG" ACTIONS WHICH CLEARLY EXCEEDED LIAISON OFFICE'S PROPER FUNCTIONS.

5. DEPT BELIEVES IT NECESSARY TO MAKE STRONG EFFECTIVE DEMARCHE PROTESTING PRESS CONFERENCE TO IMPRESS UPON GOS AND UN OUR DETERMINATION TO INSURE THAT PRG LIAISON OFFICE OPERATES WITHIN GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY UN. RESULTS OF ADDRESSEES' APPROACHES SHOULD BE REPORTED PROMPTLY, INFO SAIGON AND USDEL JEC PARIS. KISSINGER

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